

**Stephen F. Austin State University
Department of Agriculture
Bull Development Program**



About the program:

Stephen F. Austin State University is preparing for its Bull Development Program. The program is designed to assist producers in selecting and managing bulls. It offers producers relief from providing additional facilities, labor, and feed to retain young bulls. The program is designed for bulls born January 1, 2019 to May 31, 2019. Bulls entered into the program are fed mid-January through mid-November. At the end of the development program, bulls may be consigned to the Purple Premium Sale scheduled for November 14, 2020. Producers are issued a monthly report on the performance of each bull in the program with information including BW, ADG, and carcass ultrasound traits. The bulls are developed for 150 days on a grain-based diet and finished on forage with supplementation (depending on forage conditions).

Eligibility:

1. Any beef producer is welcome to enter bulls in SFA Bull Development program.
2. Producers are not limited to the number of bulls they enter in the program, available space will dictate number of bulls.

Bulls:

1. Must have been born January 1 through May 31, 2019.
2. Bulls must have permanent identification of either a legible tattoo or brand along with an ear tag indicating owner and bull id.
3. Bulls must be weaned a minimum of 45 days and bunk broke for a minimum of 2 weeks.
4. Bulls must be polled or dehorned prior to delivery; horn cavities should be healed and free of infection at time of delivery or bulls may be rejected.
5. Must have a minimum weight of 500 pounds on delivery.
6. Bulls will be inspected at time of delivery and will not be accepted if sick, wild, or have a physical defect that may impair future reproductive performance such as: cryptorchidism, testicular hypoplasia, stifled, foundered, "double muscled", etc. Scrotal palpation of prospective entries is recommended at the time vaccinations are given.
7. All bulls will have carcass ultrasound measurements collected and submitted to breed association, if registered.

Health requirements:

1. Bulls originating from Texas do not need a certificate of veterinary inspection (health certificate). Out-of-state bulls must be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection (health certificate).
2. Bulls will be tested at the time of delivery for persistent Bovine Virus Diarrhea infection (PIBVD). Owners will be notified should a bull test positive to this disease and will be required to immediately remove the bull from the facility.
3. Bulls must be dewormed and deloused a minimum of 30 days prior to entry.
4. Bulls must be free of active pinkeye, ringworm and warts.
5. Vaccination for the following must be completed according to the manufacturer's specifications by November 30, 2019. Proof of vaccination must be provided with entry fee.
 - IBR, PI3, BVD I / II, BRSV (MODIFIED LIVE WITH BOOSTER)
 - 7-way Clostridium
 - Haemophilus Somnus
 - Pasteurella H&M
 - Lepto and Vibrio
 - Moraxella bovis (Pinkeye)
6. Unsound bulls will be reported to the owners and will either be treated at the owner's expense or removed from the program.

General:

1. If the development program is canceled for any reason prior to start of the official program, each Owner's fees will be refunded in full.
2. Animals will be subject to mouthing at any time. When discrepancy appears to exist between stated age and apparent age, according to the development and configuration of the teeth, the program director reserves the right to take appropriate action. Also, animals may be blood typed at any time. If a discrepancy in parentage or breeding appears to exist, the director reserves the right to take appropriate action.

Facilities:

1. Animals will be developed at the Walter C. Todd Agriculture Center Beef Farm located at 442 CR 123 Nacogdoches, TX.
2. Bulls will be fed and housed in groups.
3. Animals will be grouped as much as practical by breed and age or weight.

Feeding program

1. Upon arrival bulls will be placed on forage for 2 weeks prior to beginning the program.
2. Bulls will be housed on pasture with supplement provided at 3.0% of body weight for the first 150 days following the 2 week adjustment period.
3. During the remaining days of the program, the bulls will be housed on pasture and provided supplementation at 1.5% of body weight.

Health & veterinary service:

1. Veterinary service will be obtained when necessary and those charges will be added to development costs.
2. A transportation charge will be added for bulls taken to Eastex Veterinary Clinic for treatment. Every attempt will be made to notify the bull's owner before a bull is transported from the beef farm.
3. Animals that are sick and/or unsound may be removed from the program; the veterinarian and farm manager will make this decision. If an animal is removed from the program, the owner will be notified within 48 hours. Animals may not leave the farm without the veterinarian's illness release, death or consent of the program director.

Program fees:

1. Bulls will be charged a development fee on a per head basis for the feeding period beginning January 13, 2020 through November 20, 2020 (Table 1). The cost will remain fixed for each individual bull throughout the program, unless feed prices increase. Owner will be promptly notified of any fee increase.
2. Bulls on feed at SFA outside the program dates will be charged on a per weight basis during that time period (Table 2).
3. Costs outside of feed and individual animal veterinary costs include breeding soundness exam, PI-BVD testing, genotyping, and ultrasound for carcass traits.

Table 1. Program cost per bull (January 13 – November 20)

Initial Weight (lb)	Program Cost per Bull
500 - 599	\$1400
600 - 699	\$1450
700 - 799	\$1550
800 - 899	\$1650
900 - 999	\$1750

Table 2. Cost per day outside of program dates*

Body Weight (lb)	Cost per day outside of program dates
400 – 799	\$4.75
800 – 1099	\$5.00
1100 – 1299	\$5.25
1300 – 1599	\$5.50
1600+	\$5.75

*prior to January 3rd delivery date or after November 20th. Bulls will be weighed at the start of the feeding period outside program dates and charged based on weight. Charges will be adjusted every 30 days. Bulls will be fed at 1.5% of body weight outside of program.

Early Removal from Program without prior notice

- Charges for early removal from the program (without prior notice to program director or farm supervisor) prior to November 20th date results in charge per day based on weight (Table 2) plus additional \$100. Bulls will be charged at final weight per day from January 13th through early pick up date.

Early Removal from Program with prior notice

- To avoid additional fees producers may make prior arrangements **before entry into program** for early pick up with no additional fees or penalties. Program fees (Table 1) will be prorated.

Return of bulls:

1. The development program reserves the right to request the owner to remove an animal within 7 days of notification for any of these reasons: not meeting entry requirements, lack of identification, health, disposition, invalid information accompanying the animal, chronic illness, or injury.
2. If an animal fails to complete the program because of death, injury, or illness owners will be billed for all expenses for such animals.

Breeding soundness of bulls:

1. Bulls which are sale eligible will be examined for breeding soundness. Owners may also request that their non-sale eligible bulls have a breeding soundness exam. October 5, 2020 is the deadline for requesting breeding soundness on bulls ineligible for the Purple Premium Sale. However, if a bull does not meet the minimum adjusted scrotal circumference requirement, he will not have a further physical examination or semen evaluation.
2. The physical examination will include: (a) palpation of the scrotum and its contents; (b) scrotal circumference; (c) examination of penis and prepuce for

injury and/or abnormalities; and (d) rectal examination of internal accessory glands.

3. The semen evaluation (electro-ejaculate) will include evaluation of sperm motility and % normal sperm. Observations will be rated as either acceptable or unacceptable according to guidelines established by the Society for Theriogenology. If unacceptable, the reason(s) will be reported to the owner(s).

Purple Premium Sale: November 14, 2020

Bulls **may be** consigned to the SFA Purple Premium Sale or may be picked up.

1. Owner must notify the program director by September 15, 2020 if bull will be sold in the Purple Premium Sale.
2. All bulls will be inspected by a committee prior to the sale. Any bull that is not healthy, not structurally sound, or that failed the breeding soundness exam will not be allowed to sell.
3. **Bulls must fit acceptable colors and/or color patterns for breed associations. Beefmaster bulls must be solid in color, no paint bulls will be allowed in the sale.**
4. Sale order will be determined by sale committee.
5. All announcements or catalog corrections will be made from the "block" by the auctioneer.
6. All bulls will be sold under standard breeding guarantees recognized by respective breed associations.
7. Sale costs will be over and above development costs and will be based on a percentage of the sale price among all animals catalogued to defray costs of advertising, printing, postage, labor, auctioneer, facilities, insurance, etc.
8. Bulls that fail to sell, and not claimed by the Owner will be sent to market.
9. Payment will be made to owners of bulls by sale management company after all testing and sale expenses are deducted from the combined testing fees and sale receipts for each bull. Payments will be made within 40 days of the sale.

Pickup of non-sale bulls:

1. Owners of all non-sale bulls must pick them up by noon on the first Friday in December. Owners of bulls remaining at the SFA Beef Farm beyond pickup deadlines will be charged a \$50 per head per day feed and yardage fee.

For more information or to visit the facility contact:

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Item	Requirement
Program capacity	50 bulls (minimum of 10 bulls for program)
Horned, polled, or polled/scurs	All bulls must be polled or dehorned and healed before delivery
Pre-delivery vaccination deadline	November 30, 2019
Pre-delivery (weaning) herd health requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBR, PI3, BVD I / II, BRSV (MODIFIED LIVE WITH BOOSTER) • 7-way Clostridium • Haemophilus Somnus • Pasteurella H&M • Lepto and Vibrio • Moraxella bovis (Pinkeye) • Dewormed <p align="right">**PI-BVD testing will be done on-site**</p>
Application and fee deadline	December 2, 2019
Delivery day	January 3, 10, 11 and 13, 2020 (8 am – 5 pm)
Warm-up period	14 days
Weigh days	Bulls will be weighed monthly
Notify program director of consignment to Purple Premium Sale	September 15, 2020
Request for BSE on non-sale bulls	October 5, 2020
Last day of Development Program	November 20, 2020
Purple Premium Sale	November 14, 2020
Purple Premium Sale order	Determined by sale committee

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